Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of October 28, 2002 to November 1, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	September 108.5	0.7%	0.5%	In September, the Canadian industrial product price index increased by 0.5% from September 2001. The year-over-year price advances in primary metal sectors played a large part in this increase. The gains were diminished by lower prices for lumber, petroleum, coal, pulp and paper products.
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	September 116.9	2.1%	5.6%	The Raw Materials Price Index increased 2.1% in September, driven by strong increases in mineral fuels (4.0%), and vegetable products (4.8%). The increase of the index was partly offset by a 3.0% decrease in animals and animal products, particularly hogs.
Canadian GDP (millions of 1997 dollars)	August 979,345	0.1%	3.2%	Gross Domestic Product increased by 0.1% in August, the eleventh consecutive monthly increase. The strong housing market and its associated industries more than offset significant declines in the agricultural, mining and utility sectors. Retail activity was lower for a second consecutive month as consumer spending concentrated on new houses and cars. On a year over year basis, GDP was up 3.2% from August 2001.
Rigs Drilling	October 183	-3.8%	-28.5%	The number of active rigs drilling in Alberta decreased by 3.8% in October. On a year over year basis, drilling was down 28.5% from October 2001. For the first ten months of 2002, the number of active rigs drilling is 27.8% lower than for the same time period in 2001.